Claims pending in the application are as follows:

1. (ORIGINAL) A compound of the general formula

A—C
|
B

wherein

A is an amino acid having at least one functional group in the side chain,

B is a chemical compound covalently bound to at least one functional group of the side chain of A, chosen from the group consisting of:

(a) oligopeptides having a chain length of up to 20 amino acids, except for homopolymers of glycine consisting of up to 6 glycine monomers, and

(b) polyethylene glycols having molar masses of up to 20 000 g/mol; and

C is a group amide-bonded to A chosen from the group consisting of thiazolidine, pyrrolidine, cyanopyrrolidine, hydroxyproline, dehydroproline and piperidine.

2. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 1, wherein A is an α-amino acid.

3. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 2, wherein A is a natural α-amino acid.

4. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 1, wherein the amino acid is chosen from the group consisting of threonine, tyrosine, serine, arginine, lysine, aspartic acid, glutamic acid and cysteine.

5. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 1, wherein the oligopeptides have chain lengths of from 3 to 15 amino acids.

6. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 1, wherein the oligopeptides are chosen from the group consisting of homopolymers, copolymers or block copolymers.

7. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 1, wherein the polyethylene glycols have molar masses of at least 250 g/mol.

8. (ORIGINAL) The compound according to claim 1, wherein C is a group chosen from the group consisting of thiazolidine, pyrrolidine and cyanopyrrolidine.

9. (ORIGINAL) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to claim 1, optionally in combination with pharmaceutically acceptable carriers or adjuvants.

10. (ORIGINAL) A cosmetic composition comprising the compound according to claim 1, optionally in combination with cosmetically acceptable carriers or adjuvants.

11. (WITHDRAWN) A method for topically influencing the activity of dipeptidyl peptidase IV or of analogous enzymes in a subject, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound or pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition according to claim 1 to said subject.

12. (WITHDRAWN) A method for prophylaxis or therapy of diseases of the skin or mucosa, autoimmune diseases and inflammation in a subject, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound or pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition according to claim 1 to said subject.

13. (WITHDRAWN) A method for prophylaxis or therapy of inflammation, psoriasis, allergies, arthritis, tumors or autoimmune diseases in a subject comprising the administration of a therapeutically effective amount of at least one compound or pharmaceutical or cosmetic composition according to claim 1 to said subject.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A pharmaceutical composition comprising at least one compound of the general formula A—C
B

wherein

A is an amino acid having at least one functional group in the side chain,

B is a chemical compound covalently bound to at least one functional group in the side chain of A, chosen from the group consisting of:

(a) oligopeptides having a chain length of up to 20 amino acids,

(b) polyethylene glycols having molar masses of up to 20,000 g/mol,

(c) optionally substituted organic amines, amides, alcohols, acids or aromatic compounds having from 8 to 50 carbon atoms,

C is a group, amide-bonded to A, chosen from the group consisting of thiazolidine, pyrrolidine, cyanopyrrolidine, hydroxyproline, dehydroproline and piperidine, ~~excluding H-Glu[NH(CH_2)$_7$CONH(CH_2)$_3$NHZ]-pyrrolidide and H-Lys[CO(CH_2)$_3$NHSO$_2$Pfp]-pyrrolidide, provided that C is not H-Glu[NH(CH_2)$_7$CONH(CH_2)$_3$NHZ]-pyrrolidide or H-Lys[CO(CH_2)$_3$NHSO$_2$Pfp]-~~pyrrolidide provided that, when A is selected from (c), then C may not be pyrrolidine or cyanopyrrolidine;

and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable ~~adjuvant~~ carrier material appropriate for the site of action.

15. (ORIGINAL) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14, wherein A is an α-amino acid.

16. (ORIGINAL) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 15, wherein A is a natural α-amino acid.

17. (ORIGINAL) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 16, wherein the amino acid is chosen from the group consisting of threonine, tyrosine, serine, arginine, lysine, aspartic acid, glutamic acid and cysteine.

18. (ORIGINAL) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14, wherein the oligopeptides have chain lengths of from 3 to 15 amino acids.

19. (ORIGINAL) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14, wherein the oligopeptides are chosen from the group consisting of homopolymers, copolymers and block copolymers.

20. (ORIGINAL) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14, wherein the polyethylene glycols have molar masses of at least 250 g/mol.

21. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14, wherein C is a group chosen from the group consisting of thiazolidine, pyrrolidine and cyanopyrrolidine.

22. (ORIGINAL) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14, further comprising pharmaceutically acceptable carriers.

23. (WITHDRAWN) A method for topically influencing the activity of dipeptidyl peptidase IV or of analogous enzymes in a subject comprising administering to said subject a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14.

24. (WITHDRAWN) A Method for prophylaxis or therapy of diseases of the skin or mucosa, autoimmune diseases and inflammation in a subject comprising administering to said subject a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14.

25. (WITHDRAWN) A method for prophylaxis or therapy of inflammation, psoriasis, periodontitis, allergies, arthritis, tumors or autoimmune diseases in a subject comprising administering to said subject a therapeutically effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 14.

I. Status of Claims.

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated December 19, 2003. Claims 1-25 are presently pending. Claims 11-13 and 23-25 have been withdrawn as being directed to a non-elected group. Claim 14 is amended in a manner that is believed to overcome rejections contained in the pending Office Action. No new matter or issues are believed to be introduced by this amendment. Support for the amendment claim 14 is found throughout the specification, drawings and originally filed claims.

II. Objection to Oath/Declaration.

The Examiner objected to the Oath/Declaration because it contains non-initialed and or non-dated alteration to the addresses of inventors. Applicants have attached a new oath/declaration in compliance with 37 CFR 1.67(a) to this response. Applicants respectfully submit that this objection has been overcome.

III. Claim Objections.

Claim 14 was objected by the Examiner because of the formula of B-A-C, where B is not connected to A and the improper use of bracketing. Applicants have amended claim 14 to reflect the connection of B to A and to remove objectionable bracketing. Applicants respectfully submit that this objection has been overcome.

IV. Claims 1-10 and 14-22 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-10 and 14-22 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, and stated that the specification, while being enabling for a specific B-A-C compound such as glutamylthiazoline of Glu(Gly_3)-Thia, Glu(Gly_5)-Thia or Glu(PEG)-Thia, and a pharmaceutical composition comprising glutamylthiazoline; or a compound of amino acid pyrrolidide, cyanopyrrolidide or 4-hydroxyproline having amino acid side chain blocked, or a pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound as indicated in the prior art, the application does not reasonably provide enablement for a compound of the general formula, B-A-C or a pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound, where the amino acid of A, the sequence of oligopeptide of B, or the substituted organic amine, amide, alcohol, acid or aromatic group of B is not defined, The Examiner stated that the specification does not enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/ or use the